a GOI institution, Rs. 20 Crores is being provided by Ministry of Human Resource Development.

The upgradation exercise has been initiated for the above institution. The Central Technical team has visited all the institution, for gap analysis and assessment of requirement. The upgradation broadly envisages strengthening the existing departments, through procurement of equipments. It is also proposed to build a Super Speciality Block, Nursing College, OPD etc. for many of the institutions. The upgradation work would be carried out in phases. Most of the equipments for existing departments are proposed to be procured in 2007-08. Civil construction work for new building for most of the institutions is expected to be completed by 2008 and 2009. Equipment required for these buildings would be procured accordingly.

Experience required for ASHA

1264. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the minimum professional qualification and experience required for the Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA) under the NRHM;

(b) what is the minimum and maximum number prescribed for the ASHA per panchayat under the NRHM;

(c) what steps have been taken for the skill upgradation of ASHA; and

(d) how many ASHA activists have been covered under skill upgradation programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) ASHA should be a literate woman with formal education up to eight class. This may be relaxed only if no suitable person with this qualification is available.

(b) The general norm is one ASHA for 1000 population. In tribal, hilly, desert areas the norms could be relaxed to one ASHA per habitation, depending on her workload.

(c) Capacity building of ASHA is critical in enhancing her performance The induction training of ASHA would be completed in 23 days spread in five rounds over a period of 12 months to be followed by periodic re-training for about two days once every alternate month. ASHA training is a continuous one and that she will develop the necessary skills and expertise through continuous on the of training. For the training of ASHA, training modules based on thematic approach have been developed. For this purpose the States have constituted the District Training teams and Block Training teams for training of ASHA. The Block Training teams are providing training to ASHAs.

(d) ASHAs are been given induction training in health & health related issues. 225375 ASHAs have given induction training so far.

Committee report on AIIMS

1265. SHRI HARISH RAWAT:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Expert Committee on the functioning of AIIMS has submitted its Report to Government;

(b) if so, the details of its findings and recommendations;

(c) whether Government have accepted the recommendations of the Committee and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, which recommendations have not been accepted by Government and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) The Expert Committee under the chairmanship of Dr. M.S. Valiathan has submitted its Report. The Committee has made a number of recommendations for overall development of AIIMS with reference to its aims and objectives and improvement in its functioning. The Report is under examination of the Government and a final decision on the recommendations is yet to be taken.